



# The Canal Zone Philatelist



Vol. 41, No. 3

Third Quarter, 2005

Whole No. 156

## President's Report

By David Zemer

Thanks to Tom Brougham and Joe Foley for an overview of the archives from the Canal Zone Postal Service that were moved from the Canal Zone to the United States in 1983. The National Postal Museum has a very ambitious plan to eventually have most if not all of this material on a database that will be on-line and available for viewing by anyone who has internet access.

### First Day Covers

Bob Karrer has volunteered to be our NPM contact person for First Day Covers. Besides being the editor of the *Isthmian Collectors Club Journal* for the past 29 years (!), Bob has been preparing a new handbook on FDCs, and this will prove invaluable when he begins to wade into the many NPM files that none of us knew existed until now.

### 1906 Hamilton Banknote Company Panama Issue

The NPM is also working on a display of the 1906 Hamilton Bank (continued on page 23)

## The Canal Zone Holdings of the National Postal Museum by Tom Brougham and Joseph Foley

In 1983 the Canal Zone Commission transferred the archive of issue design and production material of the Canal Zone Postal Service to the National Postal Museum (NPM). While this transfer was publicized then, knowledge of this archive somehow slipped out of the collective memory of the Canal Zone Study Group. In 2003, the museum developed a list of priorities for collections that would appear in Arago™, the museum's online collection research center that will debut at **Washington 2006**. The Canal Zone collection was placed on the Arago priority list in August 2005. Wilson Hulme, the museum's curator of philately, spoke to the CZSG meeting at **STAMPSHOW** in Sacramento about the archive and NPM's project to place images of some of the CZ material into the new online database. We owe the museum many thanks for bringing this extraordinary material to light.

In issue No. 154 of *The Canal Zone Philatelist*, Joseph Foley, gave

a preliminary report of his contact with the Museum and the work done to that point. In late May, Tom Brougham, visited Washington, DC. We had the pleasure of working with Tim Scofield, the project manager for Arago, for four days 1) to survey the Canal Zone archive and the other CZ material held by the Museum and its Library and 2) to advise Mr. Scofield on selections of material for inclusion in the initial offering in their soon-to-be-launched web-based system.

In those four days we surveyed all the CZ holdings of the NPM that could be found. What we saw falls into three broad categories: 1) design and production material never intended for release to the public for virtually all CZ stamps, postal stationery, cachets and special postmarks for the period 1928 to 1979, 2) internal CZPS record files concerning the development and release of new issues from about 1930 to 1979 and 3) some

(continued on page 21)

## 2005 CZSG Mail Sale

Members should receive the Sale Catalog about August 31. The deadline for receipt of bids is 5:00 p.m. on Monday, Sept 26.

Please address any inquiries to:

Tom Brougham  
2005 CZSG Sale Manager  
P. O. Box 1284  
Berkeley, CA 94701  
tombrougham@yahoo.com  
510-843-2459



Working die used to  
print and emboss UC14

## In This issue:

President's Report.....	17
CZ Holdings of the NPM.....	17
Secretary's Report.....	18
CZSG Financial Statement.....	18
Auctions.....	20

**The Canal Zone  
Philatelist  
A.P.S. Affiliate No. 42**

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Display advertising accepted from CZSG members only at the following rates per insertion:

One column, two inches	\$10.00
One column, five inches	20.00
Two columns, five inches	35.00

No larger advertisements are accepted. Remittance must accompany copy. Deadline for ads, first day of Mar., June, Sept., Dec. Copy should be sent to the Editor.

Back issues of the journal, handbooks, and other publications can be ordered from Richard F. Murphy, 501 Rosebud Lane, Greer, SC 29650.

Articles and information for publication should be sent to the Editor. Glossy photographs are desirable for figures of stamps or covers; however, enlarged high quality photocopies are sometimes acceptable. Illustrations must show clearly against black backgrounds. If you need help, write, phone, or FAX the Editor. The author must advise the Editor if the article has been published or is being considered for publication elsewhere.

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**Canal Zone Study Group**

**WINNERS:**

At **PIPEX 2005**, Clackamas OR, May 28: Alan Bentz, *Naval Vessels in the Canal Zone (1920s & 1930s)*, (8-frame) Silver Award.

At **NAPEX 2005**, McLean VA, June 3-5: Richard Larkin, *Booklet Panes and Covers - United States and Possessions - 1900-1945*, Gold and Reserve Grand Award.

At **INDYPEX 05**, Indianapolis IN, July 8-10: Paul Ammons, *Canal Zone Second Air Mail Series*, Gold Award.

**Reinstated Member**

1311 James Trotter  
1 Mustique Mews  
Secret Harbour  
Western Australia 6173,  
AUSTRALIA

**CANAL ZONE STUDY GROUP  
FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR 2004**

Revenue: 2004 Dues earned	\$ 8,014
Sales of CZSG publications (including <i>Canal Zone Stamps</i> : \$416)	495
Advertisements in CZP	40
Interest on checking (NOW) account	342
Mail Sale - net proceeds (note)	<u>1,530</u>
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>10,421</b>
Expenses:	
CZP - printing (4 issues), postage, editorial	5,364
Membership, publicity, administration	1,000
Donation to American Philatelic Society Building Fund	1,000
CZSG website maintenance	80
Member recruitment advertisement - Amos Press	<u>280</u>
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>7,724</b>
<b>Revenue over expenses for the year</b>	<b>\$ 2,697</b>
Net assets as of:	
1 January	<u>82,035</u>
31 December: Cash in NOW account	\$ 93,540
Less dues received in advance	<u>(8,808)</u>
	<b>\$ 84,732</b>

- Except for dues, transactions are recorded on the cash basis; as of December 31, there were no outstanding unrecorded bills. Dues are reported as income in the year to which they relate.
- Proceeds from and expenses of the mail sale are reported in the year the sale closes. Gross 2004 sales were \$49,445; payments to sellers were \$44,248; sale expenses were \$3,667.
- No amounts are recorded for the value of time spent by board members, officers, mail sale manager, CZP editor, publications manager, CZP mailing coordinator, and other volunteers.

**Richard F. Larkin, Treasurer**



## Auctions by Jim Crumpacker

Here is our report on Canal Zone philately which moved at public auction during the second calendar quarter, April 1- June 30, 2005.

While there cannot be a separate report due to the nature of the lots offered, one must point out the disposal in June of the Large Lots from the outstanding David Leeds collection by the M. Bennett firm. The individual lots were sold by the same auction house in October of 2004. Mr. Leeds does retain some elements of his lifetime collection.

There were no auctions of any vast depth, but the odds and ends added up to a reasonably active quarter. The final selling price, which is hammer plus commission, is given first in the listings below and is followed by the catalog value, in parenthesis, from the 2005 *Scott's Specialized Catalogue*.

- 4-8, all F or better on VF small cover, La Boca 12/8/04 to Panama, \$550 (\$n/a) Shreves  
15 var., CZSG 15.8b w/ ovpt split vertically, OG, NH, F \$3450 (\$2600) Regency Superior

- 38b, booklet pane of 6, imperf. margins, OG, H, F-VF \$440 (\$625) Ivy & Manning  
47, OG, H, F-VF \$2750 (\$3250) R.A. Siegel  
48, OG, H, VF+ \$297 (\$500) R.A. Siegel  
55a, overprint reading down, OG, NH, VF w/ margin \$385 (\$300) R.A. Siegel  
57b, horiz. pair, left stamp w/o ovpt, OG, H, VF in margin strp. of 3 w/ 2 normals \$2530 (\$2800) Rumsey  
67a, ZONE CANAL reading down, OG, H, barely F \$231 (\$850) Shreves  
69 var., complete set of 7 unissued "Arms" stamps, TG, H, F-VF \$1650 (\$2450) Rumsey  
73, pl. bl. of 6, #17110-R, OG, NH, VF \$468 (\$175) Ivy & Manning  
84b, ZONE CANAL, OG, H, F-VF \$468 (\$500) Ivy & Manning  
85, pl. bl. of 6, #16402-T, OG, H, F \$198 (\$165) Ivy & Manning  
91a, ZONE only, in vert. margin pair w/ 91c, ZONE CANAL, OG, latter NH, F-VF \$1980 (\$1075) R.A. Siegel  
103, pl. bl. of 4, #18855-UR, OG, NH, F \$468 (\$200) Ivy & Manning  
119, F, on F cover w/ Balboa roller cancel, to USA, paying printed matter rate, probably 1940s, \$510 (\$n/a), Forte (3/19/05 auction)

- 157a, silver (bridge) omitted, OG, NH, VF+ \$8050 (\$7500) Regency superior  
C4 and C5x2 plus U.S. C13, all F or better, on card 5/15/30 Cristobal via NYC on Zeppelin flight which passed through Havana, to Friedrichshafen w/ all appropriate marks, \$1540 (\$n/a) Cherrystone  
J2, OG, H, VF \$242 (\$250) Rumsey  
J14, OG, H, VF \$187 (\$225) Rumsey  
O8, used, CTO as always, XF \$688 (\$650) R.A. Siegel

The names and addresses of these auction houses are shown below.

- Cherrystone Philatelic Auctioneers**  
119 West 57th Street  
New York, NY 10019  
**Jim Forte**  
P.O. Box 94822  
Las Vegas, NV 89193  
**Ivy & Manning Philatelic Auctions, Inc.**  
775 Passaic Ave.  
West Caldwell, NJ 07006  
**Regency Superior**  
229 N. Euclid Ave.  
Saint Louis, Missouri 63156-8277  
**Schuyler J. Rumsey Philatelic Auctions**  
47 Kearny St., Suite 500  
San Francisco, CA 94108  
**Shreves Philatelic Galleries, Inc.**  
14131 Midway Rd., Suite 1250  
Addison, TX 75001-9829  
**Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc.**  
60 East 56th Street, 4th Floor  
New York, NY 10022

## eBay Auctions by Jim Crumpacker

Presented here is another in the irregular but continuing series of articles on the results of sales of Canal Zone philately on eBay. My visits to a computer at the public library have brought forth a number of printouts, an analysis of which the CZSG membership should find to be interesting and informative.

Please note that the references below relate to the centering of a stamp but not its condition. As many sellers on eBay are amateurs and some who are not might tend to not have the highest of ethical standards, a winning bidder has often purchased a pig in a poke.

All of these lots were sold on eBay between October of 2003 and mid-June 2005. Prices shown are the final "hammer" amount rounded up to the next dollar integer.

- 9, F-VF pair on cover Crist. 11/23/05 to U.S. \$29 (\$14)  
42-45, all F-VF on cover Ancon 4/3/15 to U.S. \$256 (\$n/a)  
49, F on philatelic cover Ancon 3/1/17 to U.S. \$54 (\$50)  
50, VG on philatelic cover Ancon 3/1/17 to U.S., \$106 (\$135)  
51, F on philatelic cover Ancon 3/1/17 to U.S. \$231 (\$325)  
67, TG, NH, F \$501 (\$500)  
81, OG, NH, XF \$244 (\$225)  
108, F, used as postage due stamp on Elks' Lodge permit mail pc notice Gatun 6/15/72, rec'd Crist. 6/16/72, forwarded to U.S. w/ other marks, \$47 (\$n/a)  
114, VG, w/ perfin PSN \$29 (\$n/a)  
C14 and 108a, F-VF on cover 3/2/37 regist. Crist. to Shanghai w/ all proper marks and labels \$567 (\$n/a)  
C14 and 107, F-VF on Steamship Co. envelope Crist. 3/3/41 airmail to U.S. \$225 (\$n/a)  
C18x2 and C17, all VF, CZ hand-stamp "Via Transatlantic Air Mail"

- to India \$192 (\$n/a)  
C22a w/ U.S. E19 (20c black Special Delivery stamp) added, both F-VF on cover Balboa 12/24/53 to U.S. \$39 (\$n/a)  
C27-C31 set of pb. 4 on Smith covers, Balboa 8/16/58 FDC, VF \$23 (\$n/a)  
C31, F, on cover Crist. 11/12/55 to Hong Kong, two HK stamps added there, forwarded on to England, \$65 (\$n/a)  
J6, OG, H, VF+ \$43 (\$50)  
J8, used bl. 4, F-VF one stamp w/ "L over E" var. \$33 (\$35)  
J24 pair, both se, one damaged on cover U.S. to Balboa 1931 w/ U.S. 5c Air stamps x4, \$267 (\$n/a)  
J26x2 and J28, all F on cover w/ five U.S. stamps, 3/1934 U.S. to Havana, redirected to Balboa, Crist. K-4 and other marks, \$153 (\$n/a)  
U2, significant shift of indicia caused by (?) miscut of env., unused entire w/ light stains and mount remnants \$305 (\$n/a)



## CZ Holdins of the NPM

*continued from page 17*

stamps and a few covers apparently donated by collectors. During the four days, we selected material for scanning by the NPM staff, discussed the next phase of the work and how the CZSG could assist, and copied a small amount of information from the NPM Library's files.

### Design and Documentation Material

The CZ design and production material at the NPM focuses on those issues and devices designed expressly for the Canal Zone. It essentially starts with Scott #105 and thoroughly covers through the close of the Canal Zone itself. There is sufficiently clear transmittal documentation to indicate that the archive transferred from the CZPS through the Smithsonian to the National Postal Museum never had design material for issues prior to #105. There are a few scattered items, some rather important, from the pre-1924 era, but they seem to be either accidental remnants of other official files or possible contributions from individual collectors rather than part of the methodical CZPS official design archive.

This design and documentation material is currently organized primarily by size and form rather than by subject or chronology. The material is housed safely in archival

folders and boxes but it has not been consistently organized by designs, issues or production dates. Other than brief notations on the outside of folders and the original labels which are intrinsic parts of the objects, there is no write-up. Every object from the most significant down to the last insignificant individual stamp, bears a discrete accession number in pencil. While there are several inventories of CZ material, they are not sufficient in structure or detail to organize future research. Perhaps one of the first tasks ahead is to group the material in better fashion and to index the items with descriptions and accession numbers.

The NPM has begun an effort, called the Arago Project, to place images of most of its holdings eventually in an online database with appropriate write-ups. This 'virtual' system might over time blunt the need to re-order material physically. Nonetheless, the lack of an identifiable structure and usable index presented a challenge to surveying so much material during our visit to the Washington, DC area. It presents a barrier to focused study of the collection. A researcher would literally have to look through nearly all the material to be certain to find everything on a particular aspect.

For most stamp issues after 1928, there are at least 1) two or three rough sketches – sometimes of several distinct designs and occasionally even of varying denominations, 2) one

or two finished drawings – again often showing more than one version, 3) one or two models (often photos of a finished drawing reduced to the size and touched up), and then a large die proof of final approved design. In many cases there are photographs of the subject of the proposed stamp and also photographic essays. Occasionally there are models or proofs of rejected designs.

Those Permanent designs issued in 1928 and 1929 (1¢, 2¢, 5¢, 12¢ & 50¢) are less well represented than later issues. There are large dies proofs but no sketches or models.

For every plate there is an imperforate proof of the entire sheet – usually 200 or 400 stamps and usually on very heavy, soft paper. Frequently these imperforate sheets bear blue pencil marks indicating small specks that need to be cleaned up. Usually these sheets are printed in the color of the final issue, but for later multi-color issues such as the two Scout commemoratives, this imperforate sheet proof was printed in a dull blue. These sheets bear handstamps and dated signatures indicating approval. In most cases there are also panes of the issued stamps from all plates and frequently showing all four positions from the full plate.

In short, virtually every step of the design, approval and printing process is manifested through specific objects for every CZ stamp issue from 1928

*(continued on next page)*



Original art for UX12



Die proof with approval signature of the 8c postal stationery UC6

to 1979. It is quite an impressive and informative array of material.

For each postal stationery issue, there is usually one or more rough sketches, and an essay or 'sample.' The various dies used to uprate CZ postal stationery are also documented from concept through to the issued version. The actual metal dies for most later postal stationery are also present in this archive. Unlike dies for stamps, which never leave the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, postal stationery dies were sent either to private contractors for production of the stationery or to the CZ Press for uprating them. These dies have ended up at the NPM, including a few dies for designs that were never issued.

There are two boxes of precancel sheets together with copies of the requisitions for 43 orders placed between 1960 and 1975. The requisitions make it clear that for every denomination in each order, an extra sheet was run through the press for the archive. Consequently, there are 268 sheets!

Additionally, official cachets, programs and publicity, and postmarks for First Day use are thoroughly documented through sketches, final drawings, samples, publicity photos, press releases and the actual rubber FD 'dies' for post-WWII issues. Interestingly, the collection also contains a rather large number of FDCs with private cachets. There is some documentation in the Library files that the CZPS was buying privately cacheted envelopes and distributing the resulting FDCs. Similar design and use

material abounds for First Flights and other special events recognized by CZ cachets or special postmarks.

#### Internal CZPS Files on New Issues

The Library of the NPM has approximately fifteen feet of CZPS files devoted to the development and launching of new issues. These files frequently begin with memos noting the suggestion of a new issue and laying out the considerations, followed by additional memos transmitting design sketches or finished drawings for internal approval. These are usually followed by correspondence with the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. Finally, there is usually exhaustive material on the First Day activities, on publicizing the new issue to collectors and on servicing FDC requests. These files frequently contain numerous left-over photos of the new issue and samples of first day ceremony material. There is a book here waiting to be written on CZ first days.

Before Tom's visit, it was unclear whether these Library files were the same ones that he had seen briefly in the National Archives in the early 1980s during a short visit. Shortly after the Canal Zone closed, Zone records were transferred to the Archives including those of the CZ postal system. The NPM Library files do not appear to be the same ones. The records at the National Archives dealt with much more than post-1929 new issues. Both the time period and the topics were much wider and the amount of material was at least ten times larger than the NPM Library

holdings.

#### Miscellaneous Stamps and Covers

The NPM also has a small amount of stamps and covers. Most appear to have come from donations by individuals rather than via official files. There is a very interesting 'official history' of CZ issues that was maintained by the CZPS. It contains pairs of nearly all the basic issued items pasted down including each specific printing for virtually the entire period of the Zone. However, it does not appear to add any information or sophistication that is not already reflected in the Check List in *Canal Zone Stamps* by Plass, Brewster and Salz.

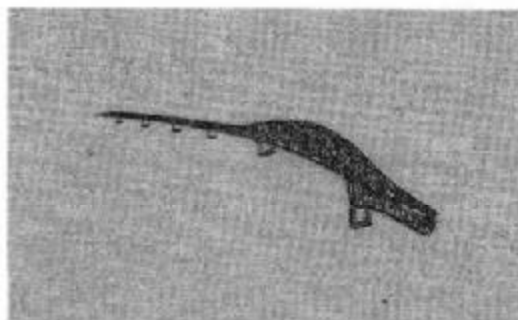
There is one stock book of stamps with lots of duplication. In the time available we were not able to devote much time to this material. While there are a handful of interesting items, there were few errors or varieties. The quality did not seem particularly good and the material was not well-identified. There is no write up. It is possible that a more leisurely examination and a re-organization might reveal more. The CZ stamp material on display in the public area of the Museum is weak, so a reworking of this stock book could result in an improved display.

The covers that we saw were generally philatelic and post-1940. While all of the design items illustrated in *Canal Zone Postage Stamps* (Tatelman) published by the Canal Zone Postal Service are now in the NPM

(continued on next page)



Rejected model for the 4c  
Boy Scout issue



Partial proof showing the Thatcher  
Bridge only

now, we saw *none* of the many non-philatelic covers shown in that work. It appears likely that those illustrated covers were then the property of Judge Tatelman or other collectors.

### Selections for the Arago Project

We were asked to assist with selection of material for the initial launch of the Arago Project and to follow-up with enlisting CZSG members to write appropriate descriptions. This project will provide images of items in the collection online starting in Spring of 2006. It will then be possible for users to get close-up views of items. Tim Scofield, the Arago Project Coordinator, asked for about two hundred items from the Canal Zone collection for the initial phase.

We tried to include material that would interest a broad range of potential viewers including every level of CZ collectors. We agreed to select a few areas for fairly complete coverage and to augment these with some isolated examples that would indicate the range of other material in the collection.

Some highlights of the items that will eventually be available online:

1. Large die proofs of the original Permanent Issue (Scott 105 to 114)
2. Large die proofs of the 25th Anniversary Issue and partial views of

two imperforated plate proofs with internal BEP approval stamps.

3. Thatcher Bridge: design alternatives, models, large die proofs of both plates, partial views of the 'Bridgeless' and 'Bridge Only' plate proofs, the laminated Missing Bridge error sheets.

4. Design alternatives and drawings for UC3.

5. Rejected designs and progressive die proofs for the 8¢ 50th Anniversary Issue

6. Several dozen dies for postal stationery from 1963 to 1979 along with various mock-ups and samples of postal stationery.

7. An essay of UX6 (1¢) on envelope instead of postcard; like U5 but 1¢ green.

8. Die proof and partial view of the imperforated plate proof of the Boy Scout issue in blue ink.

9. The 3¢ and 4¢ coil issue on one imperforated plate proof.

10. Imperforate and uncut plate proofs of the later booklet panes.

### The Work Ahead

The Canal Zone material, like all material in the National Postal Museum's collection, is available to any researcher by appointment. In addition, NPM welcomes knowledgeable volunteers to assist with organizing and researching its collections. In

the short run, the NPM is looking for immediate assistance with selecting and describing the CZ material for inclusion in the first round of the Arago Project. Beyond that, they are interested in having local philatelist volunteers help with the re-organization of the Canal Zone holdings. Additionally, the Museum and the Library are available for research.

All arrangements and permissions to volunteer or to do research should be obtained directly with the NPM. (Tim Scofield at 202-633-5519 or scofieldt@npm.si.edu.) Those interested may wish also to contact one of us for further information. (Joseph Foley at 410-974-6380 or JFoley4197@aol.com. Tom Brougham at 510-843-2459 or tombrougham@yahoo.com.) Otherwise, the Canal Zone collection may be examined at the museum by scheduling an appointment with Jim O'Donnell at 202-633-5525.

Plans are being made to hold a CZSG meeting at the National Postal Museum during **Washington 2006**. The plan of course includes showing selected items from the NPM's Canal Zone holdings. The date and time will probably be Tuesday, May 30, 2006 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

**NOTE, the images accompanying this article have been cropped from the original NPM material to show detail.**

## President's Report

*continued from page 17*

Company Panama Issue. In 1964 an anonymous donor sent the Smithsonian Institution a collection of plate and die proofs, artists, designs, color trial proofs, and related philatelic material of Panama mounted in 3 albums with 959 different specimens.

Part of this collection is described in the *New York Collectors Club Philatelist* of April and July 1948. Because the article was written by Philip H. Ward, Jr. I have always thought of it as the "Ward Collection," however in the article, he did not mention that he was the owner nor does his name appear on the accession memorandum that came with these 3 albums. This collection is a beautiful example of how these stamps were developed

from concept through production and soon they can be enjoyed by everyone who has internet access.

As 2006 is the 100th anniversary of release of these Panama stamps and their Canal Zone overprints the NPM hopes to have this collection on display at **Washington 2006**.

Federico Brid has collected and studied this issue for several decades and in fact owns what may be the rest of the Hamilton Company's original production material. Federico has volunteered to work with the NPM in writing object descriptions for the collection, as well as delve deeper into what became the Canal Zone "Fifth Series."



Photograph model of a rejected version of U10



## Canal Zone Only

Conroy Philatelic Company  
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CZSG Nos. 12.Aa, 12.Ab, 12.Ba,  
12.Bb, 12.C, 12.D, 12.Ea, & 12.Eb

### #13

Stages II & III  
CZSG Nos. 13.B, 13.C, & 13.D

Sheets (up to 3 of each CZSG No.),  
Blocks, & Pairs

Will consider singles,  
especially of errors & varieties

Quantities (duplicates) acceptable

Unused & Used

Approvals accepted

If you don't know CZSG No.,  
I am happy to examine any item  
to see if I want it.

**Geoffrey Brewster**

6453 E STALLION RD.  
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## Canal Zone Postage Stamped T-Shirts

1939 vintage Canal Zone stamps  
printed on 100% cotton Beige T-shirts  
Sizes: Med, Large, XL, XXL

Price \$15.00 + \$3.00 for s/h

Balboa shirt depicts the Admin Bldg  
Gamboa shirt depicts the Gamboa Bridge  
Gatun shirt depicts the Gatun Locks



Front has 2x4 in. stamp on left side  
Back (as shown above)  
has 7x11 in. stamp.

**Shirley Bruce, 813-994-8646**  
3429 Canteen Court  
Land O Lakes, FL 34639  
[hiwinni@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:hiwinni@tampabay.rr.com)

## Canal Zone

#2a tied on cover, extremely fine  
horizontal pair. "Canal Zone"  
inverted, light purple bar cancel and  
matching "Canal Zone/Ancon/July 9,  
1904" c.d.s. The cover is a bit  
reduced at the left, with 1969 APS  
certificate, signed by Devoss, only  
two known..... **Net \$1,950.00**

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**What else do you need in  
elusive CZ Errors or Varieties  
or other U.S. Possessions?**

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